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THE CONTROLLER BAY SCANDAL.

On June 27 a resolution was adopted by the United States Senate requesting the President to transmit to that body copies of all letters, maps, executive orders or departmental orders or instructions, surveys, applications to enter land or for rights of way for railroads or otherwise, and all other documents, recommendations, reports, records from the War, Interior and Agricultural Departments or of any of the officials or bureaus connected with these departments relating in any way to the elimination of the Chugach National Forest, in Alaska, of land fronting upon Controller Bay, and so on, and so on. The President has complied fully with the request of the Senate and has accompanied the submission of these documents with a statement in narrative form of the action of the Administration with the reasons therefor.

It is a moving story that ought to be set at rest forever, and will set at rest forever, the slanderous intimations that the President and his advisers have in any way sought to promote the interests of any of the men or syndicates who have invested their money in the development of the facilities at Controller Bay at the expense of the public. The President assumes the entire responsibility for the enlargement of the proposed elimination of the land on Controller Bay from 320 to 18,000 acres, which he ordered because the land so eliminated is in no sense necessary for forestry purposes, but is necessary for the commercial development of Alaska. So far as he knows, the Morgan-Guggenheim syndicate, which has been worked to a finish by all the muckrakers and progressives, has no interest in the proposed railroad on Controller Bay; the Government has protected the rights of the public by reserving in its interest alternate sections of the land fronting on the Bay; the "valuable concessions" about which there has been so much talk and so much misrepresentation are separated from the mainland by two or three miles of mud flats, all of which belong to the Government and cannot be alienated from it except by special authority of Congress; out of the 12,500 acres eliminated by the President's direct order 11,000 acres still remain open for entry under the provisions of the act of Congress, and "the prospect of a monopoly in one railroad company is most remote." The President's message is distinguished by a most refreshing candor which will appeal to the common sense of justice.

What he says about the story that Richard S. Ryan wrote to Secretary Ballinger—the "Dick to Dick" letter, as it has been called—saying that he had "sent for Charlie Taft and asked him to tell his brother, the President, who it was I really represented," and that "the President made no further objection to my claim," will impress the honest public mind with the fact that the President has acted in all this matter with an eye only to the welfare of the public. In the first place, the "Dick to Dick" postscript was never written as a part of the Ryan letter. Ballinger never saw it, the clerk in the office at Washington never saw it, the President never saw it. Charles P. Taft never wrote or spoke to the President in reference to Richard S. Ryan or on the subject of Controller Bay or the granting of any privileges or the making of any orders in respect to Alaska. Charles P. Taft has no interest in Alaska, and never had, and never heard of the Controller Bay Railroad until he received an inquiry by cable from the President asking him about the matter.

It would appear from the President's statement that he has been foully dealt with, and what he has written to the Senate should sting the slanderers and arouse public sentiment against the dirty work of those who have been engaged in the muck-raking business to the dishonor of this country. The President confesses his full sympathy with the view that the valuable resources of Alaska should not be turned over to be exploited for the profit of greedy, absorbing and monopolistic corporations or syndicates; but he does not lose sight of the fact that "the resources of Alaska can never become available either to the people of Alaska or to the public of the United States unless reasonable opportunity is granted to those who would invest their money to secure a return proportionate to the risk run in the investment and reasonable under all the circumstances." The concluding words of the President's message are worth repeating here, because they set forth plainly one of the dangers of the avidity with which the people have been taught to accept whatever story of scandal may be told by the reckless and dishonest scandal-mongers of these sensational times.

On the other hand, the acrimony of spirit and the intense malice that have been engendered in respect of the administration of the government in Alaska, and in the consideration of measures proposed for her relief, and the wanton recklessness and coarseness with which attempts have been made to besmirch the characters of high officials having to do with the Alaskan government, and even of persons not in public life, present a condition that calls for condemnation and requires that the public be warned of the demoralization that has been produced by the hysterical suspicion of good people and the unscrupulous and corrupt misrepresentations of the wicked. The helpless state to which the credulity of some and the malignant scandal-mongering of others have brought the people of Alaska in their struggle for its development ought to give the public pause, for until a juster and fairer view be taken investment in Alaska, which is necessary to its development, will be impossible, and honest administrators and legislators will be embarrassed in the advocacy and putting into operation of those policies in regard to the Territory which are necessary to its progress and prosperity.

We are much impressed by the President's frank dealing with this question, and we believe the people will be.

WICKERSHAM SHOULD PLEAD GUILTY.

It is a rare day when somebody in Congress does not introduce a resolution to investigate Attorney-General Wickersham. Yesterday "they" wanted to know why he hadn't prosecuted the Harvey Trust; last week Delegate Wickersham of Alaska, was after him about why he had allowed the statute of limitations to run against the prosecution of certain rascals in that far-off region, which he hadn't, and today it will probably be something else. It looks as if "they" had made up their minds to get him whether there is really anything against him or not, and it would save a lot of trouble if he would only plead guilty and be done with it.

To our way of thinking, Wickersham has done some excellent work of late, really more effective work than was accomplished by all of the Colonel's staff of attorneys, regular and special, in the course of his seven years of loud professions and empty deeds. But that is no reason why Wickersham should be suffered to escape. He is a Republican, and that ought to be enough to convict him before any prejudiced jury.

CHECKING THE "LAME DUCKS."

Senator Cummins's bill to require the monetary commission to hand in its report and disband on the first Monday in December has received a favorable report and will pass. That commission would hold on forever if it were not thus choked off. It is always the case that a big Government salary and plenty of leisure put off a termination of duty. Mr. Aldrich has already indicated that he can be ready to report when Congress meets. This is no doubt because of the impatience of the country.

Nursing a job is just as reprehensible as any other form of official corruption. Some men, when they get a fat Government job, prop their feet on the table, light a ten-cent cigar and smoke. If a laboring man were to go to work digging ditches at 15.00 the day and should light a pipe and talk politics an hour, he would be "canned." The case of the monetary commission and other such committees is just like that of the laborer, except that the committee men get a higher wage and has a big pull. These "lame duck" committees ought all to go.

SOME NEWSPAPER COLONELS.

The military annals of South Carolina would have been much poorer had the principle been established during the happy reign of Governor Clinch Heyward that it was inconsistent with the duty of the staff correspondent or reporter of a newspaper to serve on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief of the Military and Naval Forces of the State, lest the duty of the staff in the tented field or the imminent deadly breach might conflict with the duty of the reporter or correspondent to the greater or less public represented by him in his "Marginalia." Think of what the reading public would have missed if Colonel August Kohn had not been present directing the movements of the Governor on a celebrated occasion near the town of Ninety-Six, and on many other desperate adventures when the Colonel was always there with the right to go through the lines where there was news to be had and serious conferences to be held. Then, there was Colonel Eddie Watson, and Colonel Jim Hoyt, and Colonel Willie Banks, and Colonel Billy Ball, and other Colonels, who served both the newspapers, with ready access to all the inside information, and their State in arms without anybody thinking for a moment that they would be, or could be, other than straight in their reporting or disloyal in their military service. Neither Heyward nor Ansel, his successor in the office of Governor, thought for a moment, we dare say, that he was "mixing" these brave and loyal men by conferring upon them a distinction which showed only his regard for them personally and his wish to recognize at this simple way his appreciation of the press of the State, and there was not one of them, however, who would be willing to make affidavit, who could have been influenced in his journalistic service by so pretty but empty a compliment.

One of the advantages of this arrangement, looking at it from a newspaper point of view, was that it placed these Colonels on the inside, thus giving them a very decided lead on their less fortunate comrades, who had to hunt for the "news" which, on account of their strategic position, they could make, as circumstances warranted. Time was, we believe, when it was

not regarded as wholly inconsistent with their military responsibilities for Colonel Kohn and Colonel Watson and Colonel Hoyt and Colonel Gonzales to hold commissions in the office of the Commander-in-Chief to determine what was "news" and what wasn't "news," and that, too, without any failure either of their duty to the public through their columns or to the military properties by which they were always governed. It seemed to be an utterly harmless conjunction of journalistic rapacity with military effectiveness, and when the history of those eventful days is written it will appear that the State lost nothing, while the newspapers gained a great deal.

These observations appear to be wholly pertinent to the retirement of Colonel Leon M. Green from the staff of his newspaper rather than to surrender his place on the staff of the Governor of his State.

THE IMPERSONATOR VOTER.

A qualified elector has the right to vote even if an impersonator got to the ballot box first and used his name. No man may be cheated out of his vote. In Pennsylvania the election officers have long been in the habit of holding that an impersonator, if an early bird, could deprive a qualified elector of his rights. The Pennsylvania courts, however, stand ready to punish any election officers who deprive a voter of his rights. This blow is aimed at machine politics. It is good law, and will settle all disputes of this nature hereafter. The real voter cannot be shut off from depositing his ballot by an impersonator, and the inspectors in Philadelphia, who, on such a ground, excluded a voter are to be put in jail.

The impersonator in the Philadelphia case has not yet been apprehended, and the pending case is an effort to punish the election officers who excluded the real voter from the ballot box. They have been sentenced, and the highest court of Pennsylvania has sustained the sentence.

DEATH TO THE "KNOCKERS."

Seattle, Washington State, is one of the boom towns of the Far West. In 1900 it had a population of 9,671; in 1910, its population was 237,194, a gain of 156,523 in ten years, or 194 per cent. This enormous gain was made in the face of many obstacles, notably among them being the people of Seattle who are described as "knockers," and who have stood in the way of progress there as they stand in all communities that are cursed by their presence.

Last week the workers for Seattle determined that they would call attention to the knockers, and held a celebration at which an enormous hammer was burned in one of the most public places in the town. The hammer weighed six hundred pounds, and the ceremony of burning it was attended by a remarkable demonstration. There was a procession, headed by a band of music, through the principal business streets, in which past and present city officers and prominent citizens took part, and when the hammer reached the stake, so to speak, there were thirty thousand men, women and children there to rejoice at the spectacle, and they sang and cheered and danced till broad daylight.

One of the Boston newspapers says that the demonstration will cause the knockers to be scarce in Seattle hereafter. The knockers are, however, very hard to choke off; we should say that they are the nut-grass of all civilized communities, hard to kill, of no use to anybody, and are sent, we suppose, for the good purpose of keeping their useful neighbors up to the fighting point when it comes to the place in which they live and work.

A FREE PRESS IN MEXICO.

Among the results of the recent insurrection in Mexico is the freedom of the Press in that country. The idea of the new Government being that an untrammelled press would help to create a National spirit, and prove a substantial aid in the support of popular government. "But," says the New Haven Register, "the Mexican is hot-headed and erratic, and that sort of temper, if it controls the utterances of a newspaper, doesn't always make that newspaper an unmitigated blessing. A free press in Mexico will be an experiment, but with wise men as leaders of the Government, it should prove a successful one."

Probably so; but the Mexicans would do well to consult some of the leading men of the United States before consenting to too much liberty for the press in their country. In his speech last week on the reciprocity bill, Senator La Follette charged that the press of the United States was corrupt or subject to influences that imperiled the safety of our institutions; that in his own State of Wisconsin he knew of a certainty that a whole bunch of newspapers had sold their editorial columns to those who were opposed to certain "reforms" and his supporters favored; that in his fight against reciprocity he had found it impossible to make any headway against a practically united press influenced in its attitude upon this question by the benefits it would derive from the removal of the tax on wood pulp and print paper.

The other day, Mayor Gaynor told the members of the Georgia Weekly Press Association, now on a visit to that town, that "I am sorry to say that we have here in the city some newspaper proprietors who are absolutely corrupt—there is no other way to express it—who do not hesitate in saying any falsehood or entering any home or uttering any falsehood with regard to those in office without any scruple. . . . But this does not include the whole press here by any means. We have a very respectable

press here in the City of New York. Those whom I have mentioned do not belong in the City of New York. They came from elsewhere. The Press here is generally moderate in tone. I think down in your country they have to be moderate in tone also. At all events they have to refrain from lying and scandalizing, or they might have to answer for it on the street corner. It may be that that will have to come to pass here in the North before we get rid of some of the ruffians who have come into the press here. I hate to use the word in connection with anybody on the press here, because the tone of so many of our New York papers is so excellent and the management of them is so discreet. . . . Here, owing to a few exceptions, the press has been dragged down to the lowest depths ever known on this continent; but we shall be able to outlive it. And, strange to say, the chief of those who have scandalized or dragged it down think that they are fit to hold any office in this country from the highest down."

In Virginia there have also been many charges that the press is corrupt, that it is bought with a price, that it is not dependable because it is purchasable. The same charges have been made at times in all the States, and the press itself has helped along the campaign that has been organized against it by giving circulation to all the lies that have been spoken to its discredit. One newspaper, probably two or three, has acknowledged that its conduct was not journalistic from an ethical point of view; but the whole body of the press has been included in the general denunciation. We do not think this is fair. We do not think Mayor Gaynor was fair in his denunciation of the New York papers. The press of New York is corrupt; the press of New York is not corrupt. The Press of New York "has been dragged down to the lowest depths ever known on this continent"; "we have a very respectable press here in the City of New York." "The press here (in New York) is generally moderate in tone"; but it may be necessary to shoot some editors in New York for "a few exceptions," which few exceptions the public, reading Mayor Gaynor's speech without much care, would regard as the rule and not the exceptions.

The point we would make is that in denouncing the newspapers they should not be denounced as a body or class, but as individuals. Mayor Gaynor should have singled out the "few exceptions," should have explained how a generally honest and respectable press could not be described as corrupt because there are a few black sheep in the flock; should have named names and recited offences and given the reasons why the scabs should be driven out of a noble calling. We do not think that the press is altogether without blame, that its criticisms of public men and measures are invariably well considered and intelligent; but, in the main and as a class, newspaper editors and publishers have either with the Law or the Gospel, either with the Law or the Gospel.

Before determining the question as to the freedom of the press in Mexico, it would be well for the authorities down there to make a careful study of the conditions in the United States, where journalistic liberty has not infrequently been degraded into journalistic license. It may be said at a venture that the press in this country is largely responsible for the estimate placed upon it by both crooks and reformers; that is to say, if it thought more of itself it would be thought more of by the higher critics on the outside and by the general public as well.

NOBODY WANTED TO FIGHT.

"For the most part," we are told, "it was a peaceful gathering"—the Democratic State Convention at Fremont, Nebraska, on Tuesday. A platform was adopted without anything in it to speak of; no new paramount issues were sprung; Mr. Bryan's name was not mentioned; excessive harmony prevailed, and the convention adjourned, leaving things in statu quo. Charles Wooster, of Merrick County, wanted to take a straw ballot as to what candidate for President would be favored by the convention; but he was choked off by parliamentary methods, and the break which had been freely predicted, and which it was hoped would come, was postponed until the National campaign is a little further advanced.

How it happened in this way is explained: The representatives of Mr. Bryan said that they would not insist on his name appearing in the resolutions, if the Dahman crowd would agree that no other leader should be condemned, and the Dahman crowd agreed, and that was the end of it. All of which would seem to show that Mr. Bryan is not quite so dead a cock in his own State as some of his enemies have said that he is, and O. Bliss! O. Joy! he may get there yet. It will be time enough to decide what shall be done with Dahman when we have got what we want.

NO TECHNICALITIES ALLOWED.

In the Federal District Court at Atlanta, Judge W. T. Newman looks with disfavor on mere technical pleas. This is shown in the case of Banker Charles W. Morse. After all the other motions and appeals had failed, and the petition to President Taft had evoked a sharp refusal, the latest effort to procure Morse's release was on the plea that the sentence was illegal, and that he was in the wrong jail, and these pleas were the ones denied by Judge Newman. The contention of Morse's counsel was that the utmost penalty for any count upon which he was convicted was ten years, and that as the

fifteen-year sentence had not been apportioned among the counts, but imposed as a gross sentence, it was five years more than the law provided for, and that, therefore, the entire sentence was illegal. Judge Newman declined to put technicality above common sense, and ruled that it would be time enough to consider the alleged excess of sentence when Mr. Morse has rounded out his ten years. On the other plea, that Morse was not sentenced to hard labor, but had been wrongfully imprisoned in a penitentiary where the prisoners were compelled to labor, Judge Newman held that he did not know of any penitentiary where the prisoners were not required to do some work, and that, if there were such an institution, it was worse for the prisoners.

Both of these decisions were reasonable and right. Such judicial positions tend to discourage wealthy wrongdoers, who believe that the courts are made to evade.

The Chicago Record-Herald tells of an Arizona man who was in the Windy City lately for the purpose of buying several thousand dollars' worth of supplies. He was entertained as a prospective customer by a well-known business man at one of the country clubs. Just before they went in to dinner, the host asked the Arizona man to do the club the honor of registering, saying that the club liked to have the signatures "of all prominent men who come here." The Arizona gentleman looked at the register to discover what other prominent citizens had written their names there, and near the top of the page he noticed the name of Benjamin Hooper II. A little below was the name of Addison Bosworth III. Mr. Bosworth had been followed by a humorist, who under his name had written "John Smith XIV." "Well," said the Arizona man, "these chaps ain't got nothin' on me, I guess." So he wrote "Hank Watties, I."

The manager of the House restaurant in Washington has been fired, after holding the job fourteen years. He charges that he has been removed for political reasons, just as every other fired man has charged for the last century. The real reason of his dismissal, it is said on good authority, is that he failed to have bacon and snaps on the menu every day.

Several days ago the New York American published a special dispatch from President Taft thanking it and the other six Hearst newspapers for their invaluable aid in pushing through the reciprocity bill. But how come? We were under the impression that The World had pushed the treaty through, and that without its powerful aid the President would not have been able to turn a hand. It has often happened that the men who have done the work do not get the credit. Long time ago the workmen who worked in the vineyard all day long, bearing the heat and burden, did not get any more for their labor than the workmen who came in at the eleventh hour.

Dr. Wiley, around whom a fierce political storm has gathered, was seen hatless on a Washington street car the other evening. He was asked why he was without his hat, and he replied that the hat habit had been carried to irrational lengths. In the daytime a hat keeps the sun off or the snow, rain or cold, as the case may be. At night there is no sun, and in warm, dry weather there's nothing else to keep off. The idea is a good one. We wear hats too much, anyway.

"Peterburg, without regard to denominational affiliations, will regret," says the Index-Appel, "the decision of the Rev. Dr. W. C. Taylor, pastor of the First Baptist Church, to resign his charge and take up his staff in another field. Dr. Taylor is a fine type of the Christian gentleman, laboring for the advancement of Christianity. He will be missed in Petersburg, and will prove a distinct gain for any city in which he may live and labor." Our contemporary is right again. The Rev. Dr. Taylor is a man of fine ability, of that breadth and strength of character which always mark the successful minister and the efficient citizen.

Desperadoes who tried to rob a Seattle man ran away when their intended victim began to recite poetry. And yet some people think that poetry is useless nonsense.

In Baldwin, Kansas, there are many bed-ridden people who cannot get out to hear the sermons, and so in that town there is an organization, the function of which is to provide for such persons. When the society finds a bed-ridden man or woman it at once has a telephone put into the house and an instrument placed at the bedside. The sole requirement is that the sick person shall hold the receiver to the ear while the sermon is going on at the church.

A Philadelphia servant girl in court some time ago declared to the magistrate that her mistress was "no lady." When called upon to explain what she meant she said that her mistress limited her to breaking two plates, two cups and two saucers per week, and "no lady would do that." Her notion of a lady is evidently one who would put no limit on the breakage of crockery.

The latest fad at Newport is for the women to sport canes. They do not tie ribbons around them, and swing the canes in their hands, but plunk along with them just like the men. Another evidence of the encroachment of women on masculine jurisdiction.

Daily Queries and Answers

Habits of the Shad.
Kindly tell me something about the habits of the shad, and are they ever caught in the ocean? J. W.
The shad is a member of the herring family, and is found in the Atlantic Ocean. They are natives of the Atlantic Ocean, though they were introduced into the waters of the Pacific coast about forty years ago. They are now abundant there also. They live in the ocean comparatively near to the shores, the spring of the year only, and ascend the rivers in the fall for the purpose of reproduction. The movements in the spring are controlled largely by the temperature of the waters and takes place chiefly when the waters are between 56 and 65 degrees Fahrenheit. The movement of schools begins in the middle of the districts first and progresses northward as the season advances. The chief runs in the Potomac occur in April; in the Susquehanna in May and June, and in the Kennebec in May and June. The males predominate during the spawning season, and during the latter part the females, or roe shad.

The eggs are deposited anywhere above brackish waters, at the mouths of creeks or at the head of rivers. After the spawning, the shad, which has grown and started, begin to move seaward. The young remain in the rivers much longer, not finally going to sea until the fall. They remain at home until three or four years, until they mature, and then begin to ascend the streams to the spawning season. A peculiar characteristic of the shad is that it ascends the same streams in which it was spawned. During the last few years, when the demand for the ordinary shad has been so great, such as to reduce the numbers, they have been largely kept up by artificial means, which, in the main, has been very successful. The method of hatching used result in a much larger percentage of hatches than the natural one.

Dandelion.
What is a good exterminant for dandelion? N. B. D.
The best time to pull dandelion is in the spring or summer time, and pour a gallon of sprinkling salt on the ground. Eating of these will kill the root by eating to the very extremity.

Fishing Rod.
Which is considered the best rod for trout fishing, steel rod, split bamboo, unsplit bamboo or lancewood, jointed? J. W.
There is a diversity of opinion among experts. Each owner of a rod believes that the particular kind he uses is the best.

How Diamonds Are Set.
Will you kindly state how diamonds are set? C. T.
The art of setting jewels is comparatively simple, the skill of a setter depending upon his knowledge of the strength of the material and the delicate touch required, which can only be gained by years of practice. There are only four distinct methods of setting a diamond, though mountings are made which involve two or more of these methods. The most common is

the name of the great commercial constituency, for which he had been the champion of the registration of the Empire, for over ten years, and to add that after his resignation he was at once re-elected by an overwhelming majority.

Miss Ruth Brand, who is about to become the wife of Lord Monk Bretton, has a strain of American blood in her veins. Her mother, a daughter of Sir John van der Weyer, so many years Belgian envoy in London, was the daughter of Joseph Bots, an American partner of the London banking house of Baring, and the bride's father is a younger son of Henry Hampden, who was created Viscount of Hamden for his services as Speaker of the House of Commons, and six years later succeeded his brother as twenty-third Lord Dacre.

With regard to Lord Monk Bretton, his father was a Revolutionary soldier, and the first Lord Hamden as deputy Speaker, and bore the name of John Doseon. Lord Monk Bretton is a much better looking man than his father, and also more brilliant. Indeed, he was private secretary to Joseph Chamberlain throughout the latter's tenure of the Secretaryship of the Colonies, and Mr. Chamberlain was not a man when in office was wont to tolerate dull men around him. Lord Monk Bretton was also for a time private secretary to the late Marquis of Salisbury, and served as Secretary of Embassy in Paris, under Lord Dufferin, and at Constantinople under the late Lord Curzon. At the time of the Armenian massacres at Stamboul in 1894, when Sir Michael Herbert, an English Charge d'Affaires, landed most of the British troops in the British garrison in port, Lord Monk Bretton was a member of the British Consulate, and did excellent work in protecting not only the British subjects, but likewise the lives of the Armenians. His father may be said to have received his peerage owing to his dearest, and in order to get him out of the way, was in fact a case of being "kicked upstairs." He was a vicar-general of the Province of Canterbury and Dean of Arches, he has inherited from his father a taste for theology and ecclesiastical literature, and may be said to have owed his rise in life to the fact that he used to talk the way to Lord Gladstone. As he always implicitly agreed with the Grand Old Man, and permitted the latter to do all the talking, Mr. Gladstone naturally came to have a high opinion of him, and he was, in his learning, and not only got him into the House of Commons, but likewise insisted on giving him one fat office before he was made Lord Monk Bretton, and he actually got him into the Duchy of Lancaster; a post without any particular importance.

On one occasion, when he did not support Mr. Gladstone's views against the remainder of his colleagues at a Cabinet meeting, quite as strongly as he ought to have done, indeed took him who was present, rebuked him with the contemptuous words, "Dodson, you were put into this Cabinet to support Mr. Gladstone, and you don't ever do that."

At length Mr. Gladstone's colleagues in the Cabinet declared that they could not stand him longer, that he was too dull, too dreary, too long, too long. So he was quietly shunted from the House of Commons to the House of Lords, where he disappeared from view, being no more heard of until his death recalled to mind the fact that the homely looking Lord Monk Bretton and the homely looking Lord Monk Bretton were one and the same person. (Copyright, 1911, by the Brentwood Company.)

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